ovoid shape of these animals, claiming that this was an advantage in enabling them to escape from some of their enemies, the birds, for example, finding the same difficulty in picking them up as is encounted in using the forceps for the same purpose on the specimens.

OCTOBER 18.

Mr. CHAS. P. PEROT in the chair.

Forty-seven persons present.

A New Marine Gasteropod from New Jersey.—MR. H. A. PILSBRY exhibited a series of specimens of a large species of *Chrysodomus*, belonging to the subgenus *Sipho*, which he had received from Messrs Witmer Stone, Chas. LeRoy Wheeler and John Ford. He stated that the specimens were cast upon the shore during severe gales from the south east, and were evidently derived from a submarine stratum which was disturbed and broken up at those times. Associated with the *Chrysodomus* were examples of *Buccinum undatum*, *Urosalpinx cinereus* of extraordinary dimensions, and *Chrysodomus* (*Sipho*) *Stimpsonii*, the latter being well developed and typical in sculpture. The age of the deposit cannot definitely be settled at present, but the evidence at hand indicates that it is post-pliocene.

The following description of the new species was offered:

CHRYSODOMUS (SIPHO) STONEI (Pl. XIV, figs. 1, 2, 3,). Shell obese-fusiform, rather thick and solid, with strongly convex whorls separated by deep sutures. Sculpture consisting of strong spiral cords, equal on young specimens and on the spires of adults, but which alternate with smaller intermediate cords on the body-whorl in full grown specimens. A young shell, therefore, has about 20, an adult 40 spirals upon the body-whorl. The aperture is oval; the canal is strongly curved to the left and backward.

Length 72, greatest diam. 45 mm.; length of aperture and canal 51 mm. The largest individual measures, length 100, breadth 64, length of aperture 73 mm. Both of these, as well as all specimens seen, have lost several of the earlier whorls; so the length of a perfect individual would be proportionately greater.

The more prominent features of this species are the swollen form, deep sutures, the strong spiral sculpture, and the strongly recurved canal.

The localities from which specimens have been obtained are as follows: Point Pleasant, N. J. (Witmer Stone); Sea Isle City, N. J. (John Ford, Oct., 1892); Cape May, N. J. (C. LeRoy Wheeler, 1891.)

Prof. A. E. Verrill of Yale College very kindly compared specimens of this species with the collection under his charge (a collection vastly richer than any other in mollusks of the north-west Atlantic.) He writes as follows:

"I have made a careful comparison of the *Sipho* sent by you with our series.

"It differs notably from anything we have, and is probably, as you suppose, an undescribed species, unless described as a fossil. We have specimens of the ventricose varieties of *S. Stimpsoni*, which equal this in stoutness, and nearly equal it in curvature of the columella, but the whorls are less ventricose, the shoulder less swollen, the sutural region less deep, and the sculpture is very much finer."

Comparisons have also been made by myself with the Atlantic Siphos in the U. S. National Museum, and of course with the recent and fossil series in the collection of the Academy.

Diachæa Thomasii, a New Species of Myxomycetes.—Dr. Geo. A. Rex presented specimens of a species of *Diachæa* which he considered new and undescribed.

This species was first found by Mr. Lancaster Thomas at Cranberry in the mountains of Western North Carolina, and later by the speaker at Linville higher up in the same mountains. In both cases the *Diachæa* was first found in the plasmodial stage. Owing to the altitude of these places, 3,200 and 3,800 feet respectively, the temperature even in July and August frequently falls at night nearly or quite to the lowest point compatible with the life of the plasmodium or with its further development to maturity. By careful protection, however, perfectly mature sporangia were developed.

The sporangia are beautiful and conspicuous, hence the speaker was inclined to believe the species local in its habitat, else it could not have escaped attention up to this time in view of the increasing interest taken by students in the study of these forms. The species may be described as follows:

Diachæa Thomasii n. sp. Plasmodium ochre yellow, immature sporangia pure white, mature sporangia of a metallic lustre either silvery or gold bronze partially iridescent; growing either singly or in clusters, stipitate or sessile, globose when stipitate but flattened beneath when sessile; $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mm. in diameter. Stipes variable, usually short but sometimes equalling the diameter of the sporangium, thick, rugose, dull ochre yellow in color, containing lime. Columellas ochre yellow, rough, penetrating from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the sporangia, varying from bluntly conical to cylindric-clavate in shape, containing minute round or oblong granules of lime. Spores brown, 11–12 μ in diameter, with a peculiar warting, the entire epispore, when examined by a medium power lens being sparsely covered with minute papillæ associated with from six to eight large scattered warts or papillæ apparently, which are resolved however by a sufficiently high amplification into clumps of from five to eight minute, closely aggregated papillæ.

Capillitium sparse, brown violet in color composed of rigid, straight, tapering threads arising from the columella and base of the sporangium, joined by a few lateral branches in the middle and near